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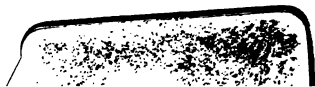
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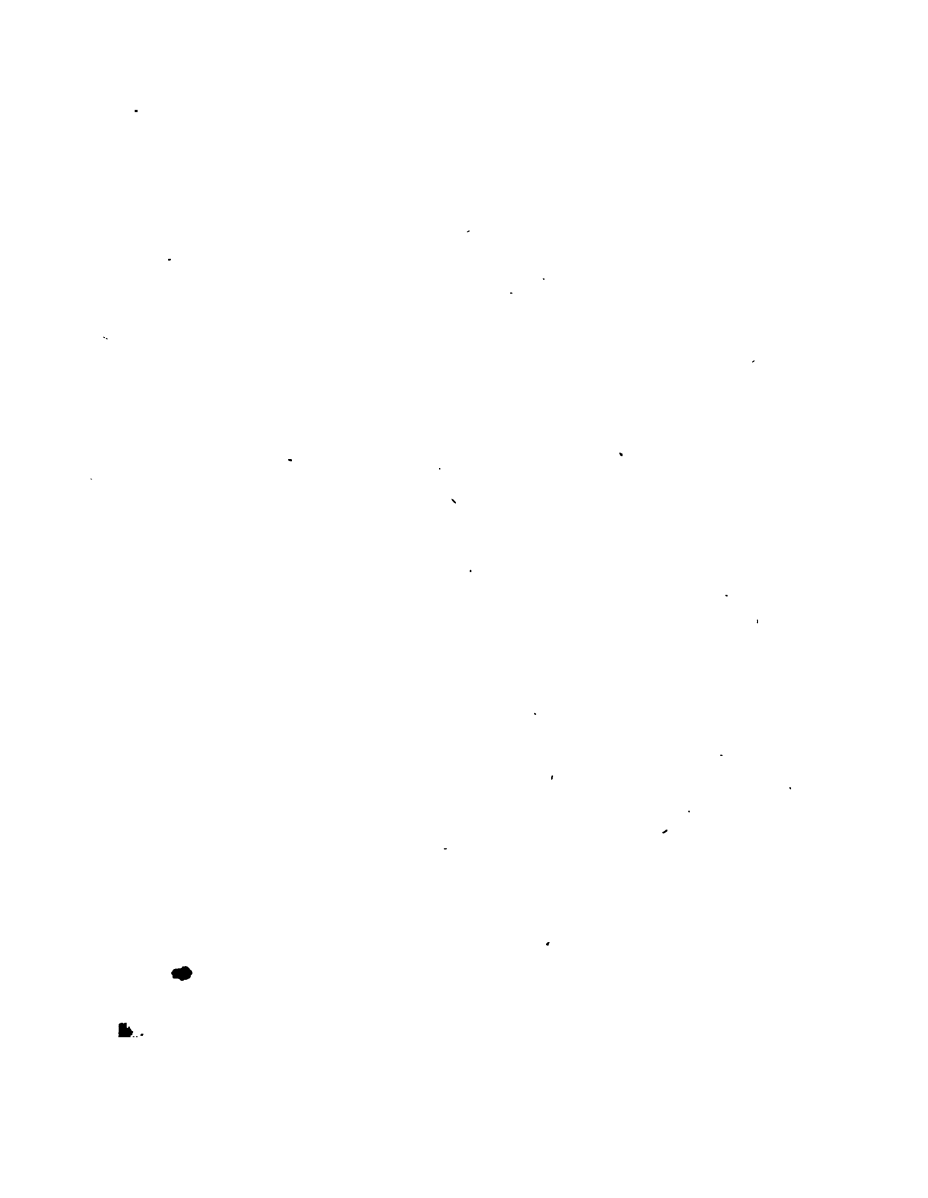
Night After
Darkness.





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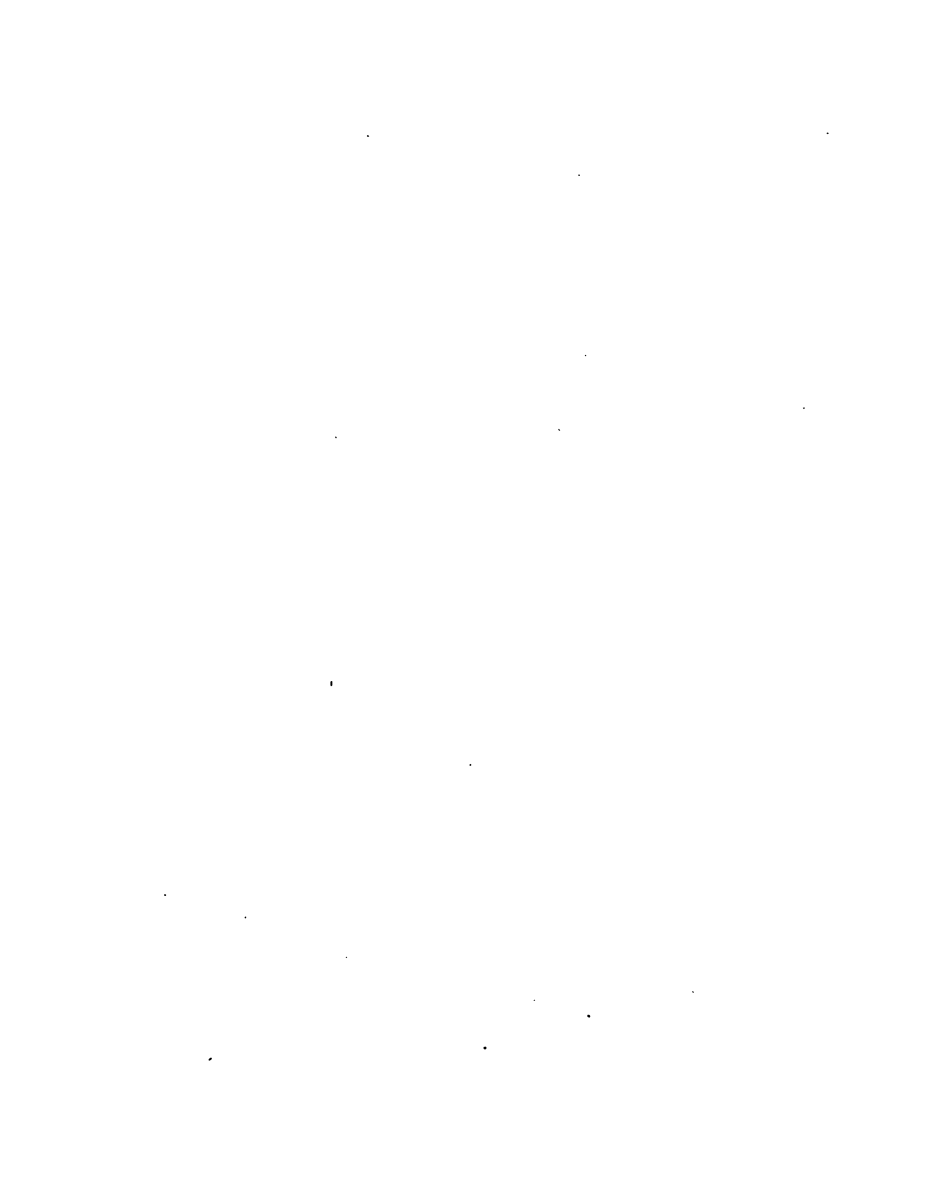


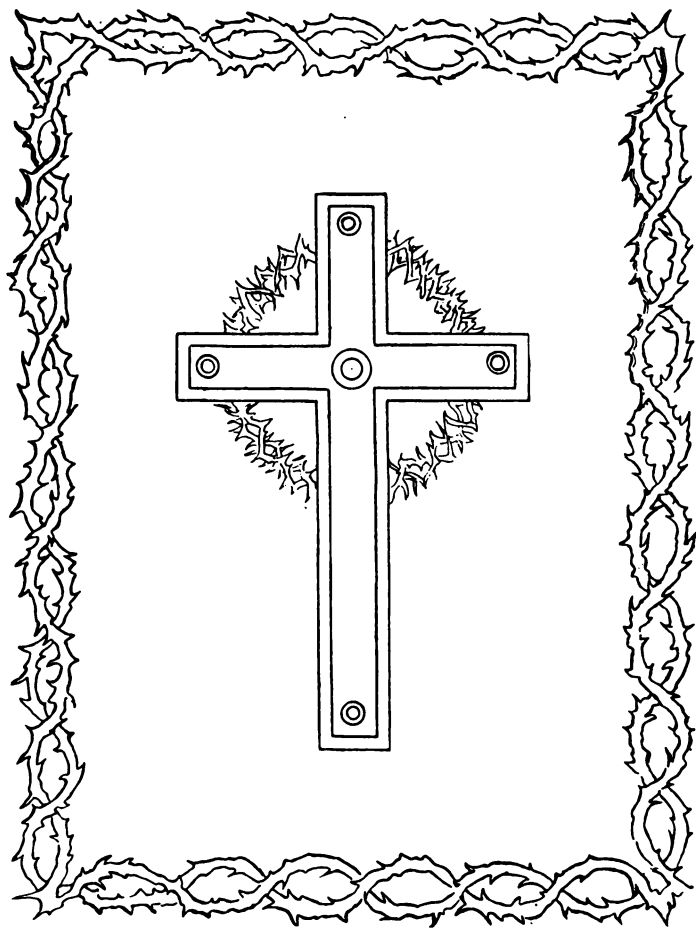




1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses of the members of the committee.

LIGHT AFTER DARKNESS.





LIGHT AFTER DARKNESS.

By M. E. G.

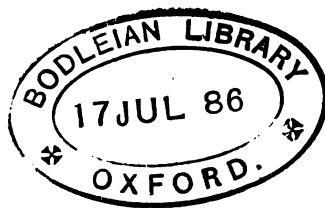
WITH ILLUSTRATIONS.

" We wait in faith and turn our face
To where the daylight springs,
Till Thou shalt come our gloom to chase
With healing in Thy wings."

J. M. N.

LONDON:
JAMES NISBET & CO., 21, BERNERS STREET.
1885.

12440 - 57



Dedication.

TO THE

REV. JOHN GOTT, D.D.,

Vicar of Leeds and Rural Dean,

MY VICAR AND FRIEND,

THIS POEM

IS BY PERMISSION DEDICATED WITH GRATITUDE

AND AFFECTION.



Preface.

A zealous Churchworker has a right to demand of her Vicar any help he can give to her service; and these verses supplement her labour for God. They reveal an experience larger and sadder than her own, for the true servant of the Church learns more than she teaches, and gathers the thoughts of many hearts, which she offers with her own to her Lord and His members.

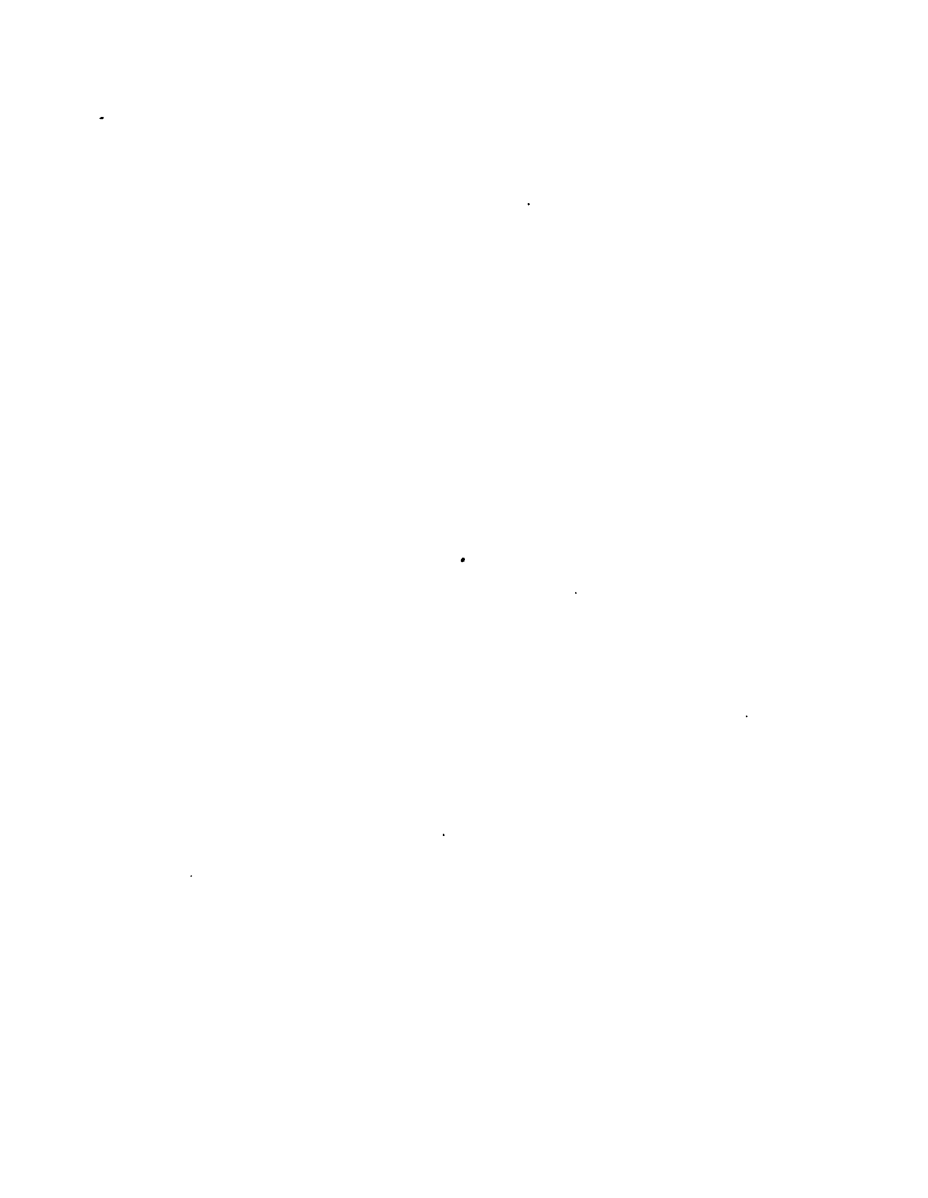
LEEDS VICARAGE, *June* 1885.

THIS POEM has been published at the request of many who possessed it in a leaflet form—fully conscious as I am of its many imperfections—this must be my apology for its present appearance.

I would take this opportunity of expressing my sense of indebtedness to my valued friend and schoolfellow N. K. D. S. for the pains and trouble she has taken in assisting me to illustrate the Poem.

Should this little book afford comfort and help to any sorrowing, or distressed with the cares and trials of this world, and lead them to seek for rest where alone it is to be found, the primary object of its publication will be attained.

M. E. G.





"Half doubting I look up, and see Thy face so mild"

—Ver. 1.

Light after Darkness.



„What I do thou knowest not now but thou shalt know hereafter.”—S. John xiii. 7.

I.

Oh ! JESU ! in my misery I turn to Thee,
And weeping at Thy feet, I bend on humbled knee ;
Half doubting I look up, and see Thy face so mild
And marvel that it smiles upon Thy sinful child.

II.

To draw near Thee, oh gentle SAVIOUR can I dare ?
I, who till now have never sought Thy love to share ;
I, who in times of trial turned self-willed aside,
And sought in loneliness my wayward grief to hide !

LIGHT AFTER DARKNESS.

III.

Who bore in stubborn silence, unresigned my pain ;
In unsubmission and rebellion strove in vain,
In bitt'rest agony, and unrelieved by tears,
To still *the Voice within*—the teaching of past years !

IV.

I heard but heeded not the SAVIOUR'S dying cry,
And listened to that voice, but, ah ! I drew not nigh :
That cry, which raised for us, must all the sadder be,
“ My GOD ! my GOD ! hast Thou forsaken me ? ”

* * * * *



"I walked in bitter loneliness for many a year."
—Ver. vi.

LIGHT AFTER DARKNESS.

V.

Fainting beneath my trial, tired and worn with strife
I prayed that GOD would take and end my wasted
life ;

But He who knew me best refused the boon I sought
And in this harden'd heart a wond'rous change He
wrought.

* * * * *

VI.

I walked in bitter loneliness for many a year,
And would not see a Father's Hand my path to cheer.
Yet GOD in mercy left me not, but led the way,
Blow after blow He dealt till I could truly say :

LIGHT AFTER DARKNESS.

VII.

Thy way—not mine, henceforth, however lone it be,
Thy will—not mine oh JESUS, Thou alone can'st see
What trials I must bear, till in submission brought
I find the peace at last, I should have sooner sought.

* * * * *

VIII.

Perhaps I've many sorrows to endure below,
But JESUS will be with me through them all, I know :
He came and died, and bore the heavy curse for all,
So if we trust in Him, we surely cannot fall.



" I pray to Him to keep me white and pure within."

Ver ix.

LIGHT AFTER DARKNESS.

IX.

And now though troubles come, I shall have nought
to fear,
For what are Care and Death when JESUS CHRIST is
near !
I pray to Him to keep me white and pure within,
Made worthy of His Presence, slave no more of sin.

X.

The blood of CHRIST can cleanse the soul from every
stain,
Bathed in that precious stream, new life, new hope
we gain ;
A pardon full and free O GOD ! Thou dost impart
On true and whole surrender of the contrite heart !

LIGHT AFTER DARKNESS.

XI.

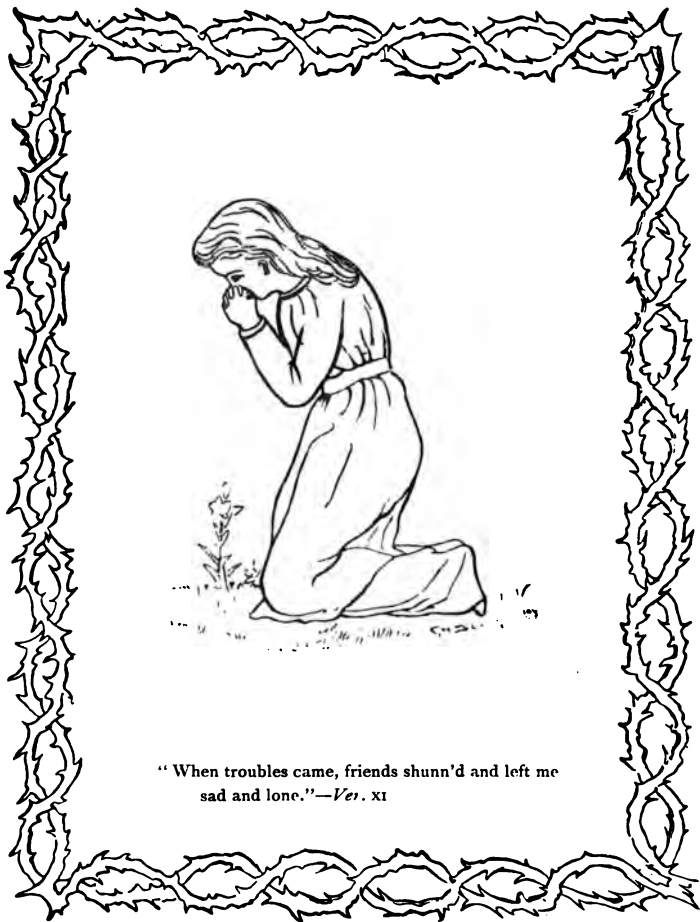
I could not do without Thee, must be all Thine own,
When troubles came, friends shunn'd and left me sad
and lone.

When I for sympathy appealed they turned aside ;
T'was then I learnt Thy love, t'was then I found my
Guide.

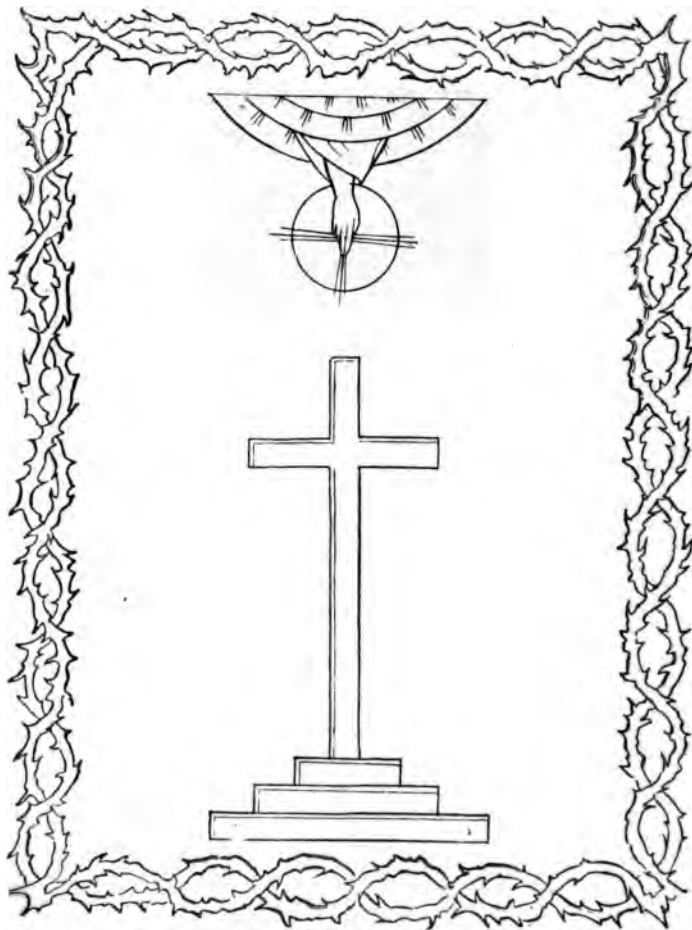
XII.

Oh GOD, Thy Love discerned too late, is now confessed
That I should turn to Thee *alone* for peace and rest ;
Thou in Thy graciousness, to me didst deign to show
How weak, how prone to change is earthly love below !

* * * * *



"When troubles came, friends shunn'd and left me
sad and lone."—*Ver.* xi



"To mark the beckoning hand that signals from above."

Ver. XIII.

LIGHT AFTER DARKNESS.

XIII.

Teach me sweet SAYIOUR, since my heart is fix'd on
Thee,
To quell all bitter thoughts, and muse on Calvary ;
Forgetting things behind in "Th' mystery of Love."
To mark the beckoning Hand that signals from above.

XIV.

I thank Thee JESUS Master, from Thy throne on high,
Thou has't already sent an answer to my cry ;
My grief is turned to gladness, peace succeeds to pain
My gloom is chased by sunshine, and my loss is gain.

LIGHT AFTER DARKNESS.

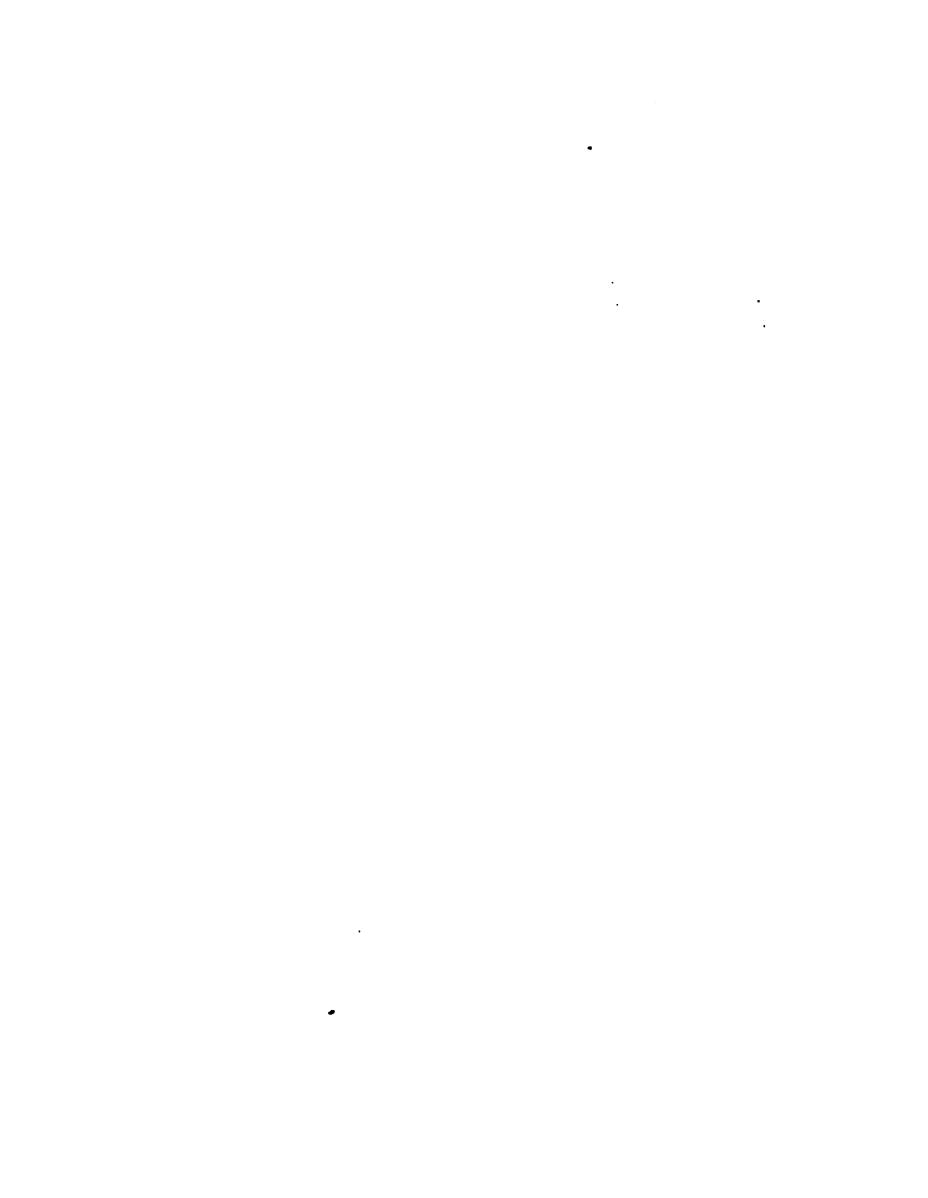
XV.

So at Thine altar bent, Thy merits LORD I plead,
“ With faith in GOD resolved a holier life to lead
In charity towards man,” I pray that soon the night
May end, and we may enter *Thine eternal Light.*

“ Some murmur when their sky is clear
And wholly bright to view,
If but one speck of dark appear
In their great Heaven of blue.

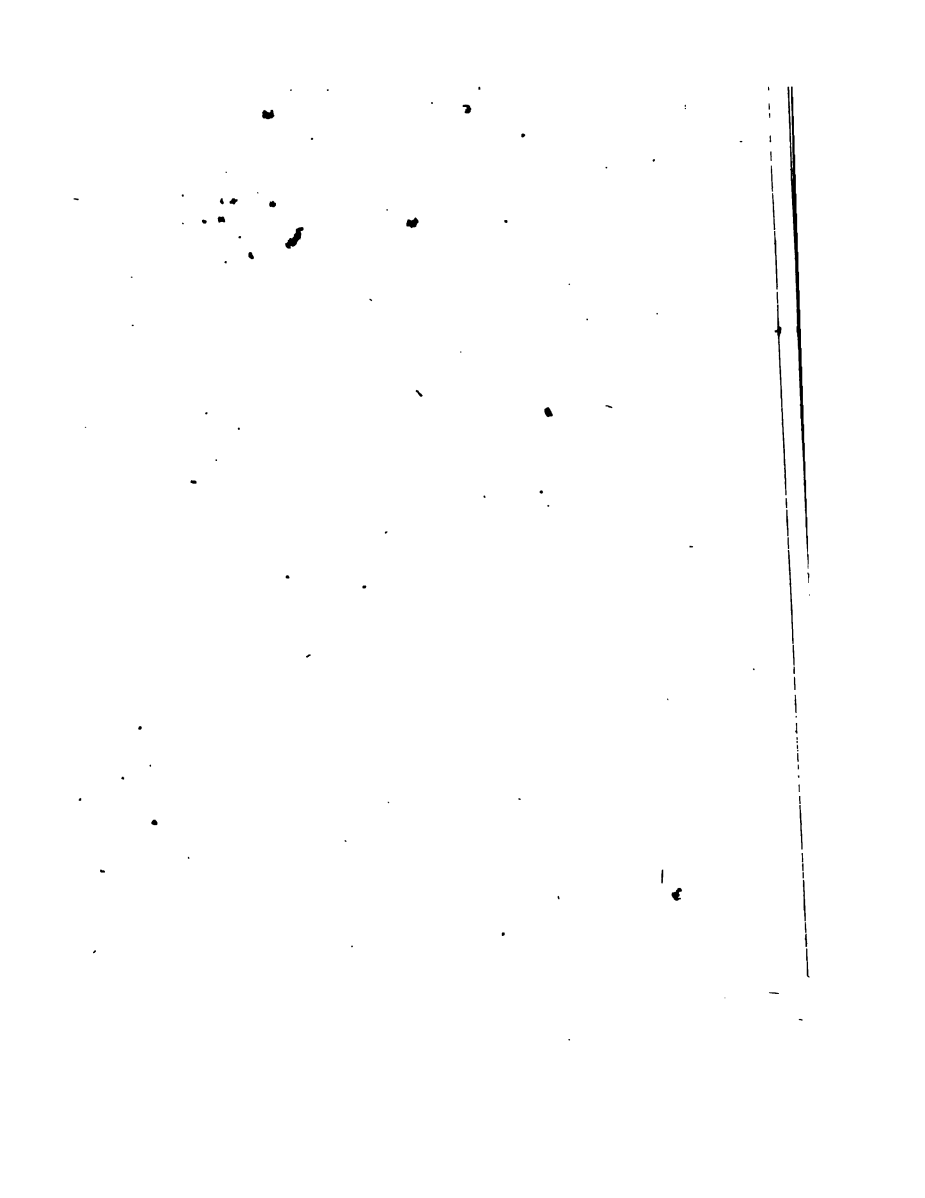
And some with thankful hearts are filled
If but one streak of Light,
One ray of God's good mercy gild
The blackness of their night.”

ARCHBISHOP TRENCH.



" AT EVENING TIME IT SHALL BE LIGHT."

—*Zechariah* XIV. 7.



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